

In the Claims:

1-39 (canceled).

40 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent, wherein said coloured material transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 540nm.

41 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent, wherein said coloured material transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 560nm.

42 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent, wherein said coloured material transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 580nm.

43 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent, wherein said coloured material transmits at least 60% of visible light with a wavelength of 600nm or more.

44 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent, wherein said coloured material transmits, on average, at least 20% of light with a wavelength in the range 580-590nm.

45 (previously presented). An item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the item of cage furniture comprising a coloured material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent,

wherein the item of cage furniture comprises a substantially right-angled triangular shaped floorless shelter.

46 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to any preceding claim, wherein said coloured material is red-coloured or red-tinted.

47 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to claim 46, for use by a caged rat or mouse.

48 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to claim 46, wherein the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture is substantially or entirely formed from a substance which is transparent or translucent to a human observer but substantially darkened or opaque to the caged animal.

49 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to claim 46, wherein the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture is formed entirely from a synthetic plastics material.

50 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to claim 46, wherein the material comprising the cage or cage furniture is resistant to repeated autoclaving.

51 (currently amended). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture according to claim 46, comprising at least one of polysulfone, polyetherimide, ~~and/or~~ and polycarbonate.

52 (previously presented). An item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 46, provided with fixing means to restrict the movement of the item of cage furniture within a cage.

53 (previously presented). An item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 46, comprising at least two entrances.

54 (previously presented). A method of making at least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture, the method comprising the step of forming said at least one of cage and the item of cage furniture, so as to comprise a material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by a caged rodent, and performance of which method results in production of the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 40.

item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 40.

55 (cancelled).

56 (previously presented). At least one of a cage and an item of cage furniture for containing a rodent, the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture being substantially or entirely formed from a substance which is transparent or translucent to a human observer outside the at least one of the cage and the item of cage-furniture, but substantially darkened or opaque to a rodent contained in the at least one of the cage and the item of cage furniture.